

**Appln No. 10/812,342**  
**Amdt date January 23, 2006**  
**Reply to Office action of September 23, 2005**

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Previously Presented) A pull pin assembly, comprising:
  - a first rod or pole, having a first hole and a second notch or hole;
  - a second rod or pole, having a third hole, the second rod or pole being slidably contained within the first rod or pole, so that the first hole is superimposable on the third hole;
  - a main body, having a central hollow dimensioned to contain the first rod or pole, and having at least one resilient tab, the resilient tab being cut out from the main body and having a boss thereon extending into the central hollow to engage the second notch or hole of the first rod or pole;
  - a pull pin body integral with the main body and extending radially outward from the central hollow, said pin body having a space therein extending into the central hollow;
  - a pull pin slidably disposed in the space of the pull pin body to move from a first position extending into the central hollow through the first hole to a second position outside of the central hollow; and
  - a biasing member biasing the pull pin toward the first position to relatively lock the first rod or pole and the second rod or pole when the first hole is superimposed on the third hole.
  
2. (Previously Presented) A pull pin assembly according to claim 1 further comprising a pull pin plug fit into the space of the pin body, the pull pin plug having a hollow dimensioned to slidably contain the pull pin, said pull pin having a circumferential stop, wherein the biasing member is disposed to bias the pull pin between the circumferential stop and the pull pin plug, and wherein the circumferential stop is dimensioned to prevent the pull pin from passing completely through the first hole in the first position.

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3. (Previously Presented) A pull pin assembly according to claim 2, wherein said pull pin comprises a circumferential tongue, wherein said pull pin plug comprises a radial groove, wherein, the pull pin has a first engageable position in which the circumferential tongue is movable in the radial groove, and a second, disengaged position, wherein the pull pin is pulled against a biasing force of the biasing member to come out of the radial groove and rotated so that the circumferential tongue is biased against the pull pin plug.

4. (Original) A pull pin assembly according to claim 3, wherein the pull pin plug is friction fit into the space of the pull pin body.

5. (Previously Presented) A pull pin assembly according to claim 3, wherein the pull pin comprises a transverse hole near a distal end removed from the central hollow, and further comprising a pull ring disposed in the transverse hole to prevent the pull pin from passing completely through the pull pin body.

6. (Original) A pull pin assembly according to claim 2, wherein the pull pin plug is friction fit into the space of the pull pin body.

7. (Previously Presented) A pull pin assembly according to claim 2, wherein the pull pin comprises a transverse hole near a distal end removed from the central hollow, and further comprising a pull ring disposed in the transverse hole.

8. (Original) A pull pin assembly according to claim 2, wherein said pull pin plug is countersunk and friction fit into said pull pin body.

9. (Previously Presented) A pull pin assembly according to claim 1, wherein a pull pin plug is friction fit into the space of the pull pin body.

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10. (Previously Presented) A pull pin assembly according to claim 1, wherein the pull pin comprises a transverse hole near a distal end removed from the central hollow, and further comprising a pull ring disposed in the transverse hole.

11. (Original) A pull pin assembly according to claim 1, wherein the central hollow, first rod or pole and second rod or pole all have square cross sections.

12. (Previously Presented) A pull pin assembly according to claim 1, wherein said main body further comprises a lip disposed to engage an end of said first rod or pole.

13. (Previously Presented) A pull pin assembly, comprising:

a first rod or pole, having a first hole;

a second rod or pole, having a second hole, the second rod or pole being slidably contained within the first rod or pole, so that the first hole is superimposable on the second hole;

a main body, having a central hollow dimensioned to contain the first rod or pole;

a pull pin body integral with the main body and extending radially outward from the central hollow, said pin body having a space therein extending into the central hollow;

a pull pin slidably disposed in the space of the pull pin body to move from a first position extending into the central hollow through the first hole to a second position outside of the central hollow, said pull pin having a circumferential stop;

a pull pin plug fit into the space of the pin body, the pull pin plug having a hollow dimensioned to slidably contain the pull pin; and

a biasing member biasing the pull pin toward the first position to relatively lock the first rod or pole and the second rod or pole when the first hole is superimposed on the second hole;

wherein the biasing member is disposed to bias the pull pin between the circumferential stop and the pull pin plug, and wherein the circumferential stop is dimensioned to prevent the pull pin from passing completely through the first hole in the first position.

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14. (Previously Presented) A pull pin assembly according to claim 13, wherein said pull pin comprises a circumferential tongue, wherein said pull pin plug comprises a radial groove, wherein, the pull pin has a first engageable position in which the circumferential tongue is movable in the radial groove, and a second, disengaged position, wherein the pull pin is pulled against a biasing force of the biasing member to come out of the radial groove and rotated so that the circumferential tongue is biased against the pull pin plug.

15. (Previously Presented) A pull pin assembly according to claim 13 wherein the first rod or pole comprises an end and the main body extends around the end of the first rod or pole.

16. (Previously Presented) A pull pin assembly according to claim 13 wherein the circumferential stop is dimensioned to prevent more than a predetermined length of the pull pin from extending into the central hollow in the first position.

17. (Previously Presented) A pull pin assembly according to claim 13 wherein the main body comprises at least one resilient tab having a boss thereon extending into the central hollow to engage a second notch or hole of the first rod or pole.

18. (Previously Presented) A pull pin assembly according to claim 1 wherein the first rod or pole comprises an end and the main body extends around the end of the first rod or pole.

19. (Currently Amended) A pull pin assembly according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 2 wherein the circumferential stop is dimensioned to prevent more than a predetermined length of the pull pin from extending into the central hollow in the first position.

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20. (Previously Presented) A pull pin assembly, comprising:

- a first rod or pole, having a first hole;
- a second rod or pole, having a second hole, the second rod or pole being slidably contained within the first rod or pole, so that the first hole is superimposable on the second hole;
- a main body having a central hollow dimensioned to contain the first rod or pole;
- a pull pin body adjacent to the main body and extending outward from the central hollow, said pin body having a space therein extending into the central hollow;
- a pull pin disposed in the space of the pull pin body to move from a first position extending into the second hole to a second position not extending into the second hole; and
- a biasing member biasing the pull pin toward the first position to relatively lock the first rod or pole and the second rod or pole when the first hole is superimposed on the second hole, wherein the main body is fixed against movement along the first rod or pole when the pull pin is in the second position.

21. (Previously Presented) A pull pin assembly according to claim 20, wherein the first rod or pole further comprises a third notch or hole and wherein the main body is fixed against movement along the first rod or pole in the second position by a boss extending between the main body and the first rod or pole.

22. (Previously Presented) A pull pin assembly according to claim 21, wherein the boss is formed on a resilient tab on the main body, the boss extending into the central hollow to engage the third notch or hole of the first rod or pole.

23. (Previously Presented) A pull pin assembly according to claim 22 wherein resilient tab is cut out from the main body.

24. (Previously Presented) A pull pin assembly according to claim 20, wherein the main body extends around an end of the first rod or pole.

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25. (Previously Presented) A pull pin assembly according to claim 20, wherein the pull pin body is integral with the main body.\

26. (Previously Presented) A pull pin assembly according to claim 20, further comprising a pull pin plug having a hollow dimensioned to slidably contain the pull pin; and a circumferential stop on the pull pin dimensioned to prevent more than a predetermined length of the pull pin from extending into the central hollow in the first position, wherein the biasing member is disposed to bias the pull pin between the circumferential stop and the pull pin plug.

27. (Previously Presented) A pull pin assembly according to claim 26, wherein the pull pin plug is friction fit into the space of the pull pin body.

28. (Previously Presented) A pull pin assembly, comprising:  
a first rod or pole, having a first hole;  
a second rod or pole, having a second hole, the second rod or pole being slidably contained within the first rod or pole, so that the first hole is superimposable on the second hole;  
a main body, having a central hollow dimensioned to contain the first rod or pole;  
a pull pin body adjacent to the main body and extending outward from the central hollow, said pin body having a space therein extending into the central hollow;  
a pull pin disposed in the space of the pull pin body to move from a first position extending into the second hole to a second position not extending into the second hole, said pull pin having a circumferential stop;  
a pull pin plug having a hollow dimensioned to slidably contain the pull pin; and  
a biasing member biasing the pull pin toward the first position to relatively lock the first rod or pole and the second rod or pole when the first hole is superimposed on the second hole;  
wherein the biasing member is disposed to bias the pull pin between the circumferential stop and the pull pin plug, and wherein the circumferential stop is dimensioned to prevent more

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than a predetermined length of the pull pin from extending into the central hollow in the first position.

29. (Previously Presented) A pull pin assembly according to claim 28, wherein the pull pin plug is friction fit into the space of the pull pin body.

30. (Previously Presented) A pull pin assembly according to claim 28, wherein the main body is fixed against movement along the first rod or pole when the pull pin is in the second position.

31. (Previously Presented) A pull pin assembly according to claim 30, wherein the main body is fixed against movement along the first rod or pole by a boss extending between the main body and the first rod or pole.

32. (Previously Presented) A pull pin assembly according to claim 31, wherein the first rod or pole further comprises a third notch or hole and wherein the boss is formed on a resilient tab, the boss extending into the central hollow to engage the third notch or hole of the first rod or pole.

33. (Previously Presented) A pull pin assembly according to claim 32, wherein the resilient tab is cut out from the main body.

34. (Currently Amended) A pull pin assembly according to claim 28, wherein the first rod or pole extends vertically above a top of the second rod or pole.

35. (Previously Presented) A pull pin assembly according to claim 28, wherein the main body extends around an end of the first rod or pole.

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36. (Previously Presented) A pull pin assembly according to claim 28, wherein the pull pin body is integral with the main body.

37. (Currently Amended) A pull pin assembly, comprising:  
a first rod or pole, having a first hole and an end;  
a second rod or pole, having a second hole, the second rod or pole being slidably contained within the first rod or pole, so that the first hole is superimposable on the second hole;  
a main body, having a central hollow dimensioned to contain the first rod or pole, the main body extending around and abutting the end of the first rod or pole;  
a pull pin body adjacent to the main body and extending outward from the central hollow, said pin body having a space therein extending into the central hollow;  
a pull pin disposed in the space of the pull pin body to move from a first position extending into the second hole to a second position not extending into the second hole; and  
a biasing member biasing the pull pin toward the first position to relatively lock the first rod or pole and the second rod or pole when the first hole is superimposed on the second hole.

38. (Previously Presented) A pull pin assembly, comprising:  
a first rod or pole, having a first hole, a second notch or hole, a third notch or hole and an end;  
a second rod or pole having a fourth hole, the second rod or pole being slidably contained within the first rod or pole, so that the first hole is superimposable on the fourth hole;  
a main body, having a first wall and a central hollow dimensioned to contain the first rod or pole, the main body extending around the end of the first rod or pole and having an opening on the first wall leading into the central hollow, the main body further having two resilient tabs, the resilient tabs being cut out from substantially opposite sides of the main body and having bosses thereon, each boss extending into the central hollow to engage a different one of the second notch or hole and the third notch or hole and to fix the main body against movement along the first rod or pole;

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a pull pin body integral with the main body and extending from the first wall away from the central hollow and surrounding an area of the first wall containing the opening, such that the surrounded area forms a ledge;

a pull pin plug disposed in the pull pin body, the pull pin plug having a central opening and a surface facing the central hollow;

a pull pin extending through the central opening of the pull pin plug to move from a first position extending into the fourth hole to a second position not extending into the fourth hole, said pull pin having a circumferential stop; and

a biasing member disposed between the circumferential stop and the surface of the pull pin plug facing the central hollow, the biasing member biasing the pull pin toward the first position to relatively lock the first rod or pole and the second rod or pole when the first hole is superimposed on the fourth hole,

wherein the ledge is dimensioned to abut the circumferential stop such that no more than a predetermined length of the pull pin can extend into the central hollow in the first position.